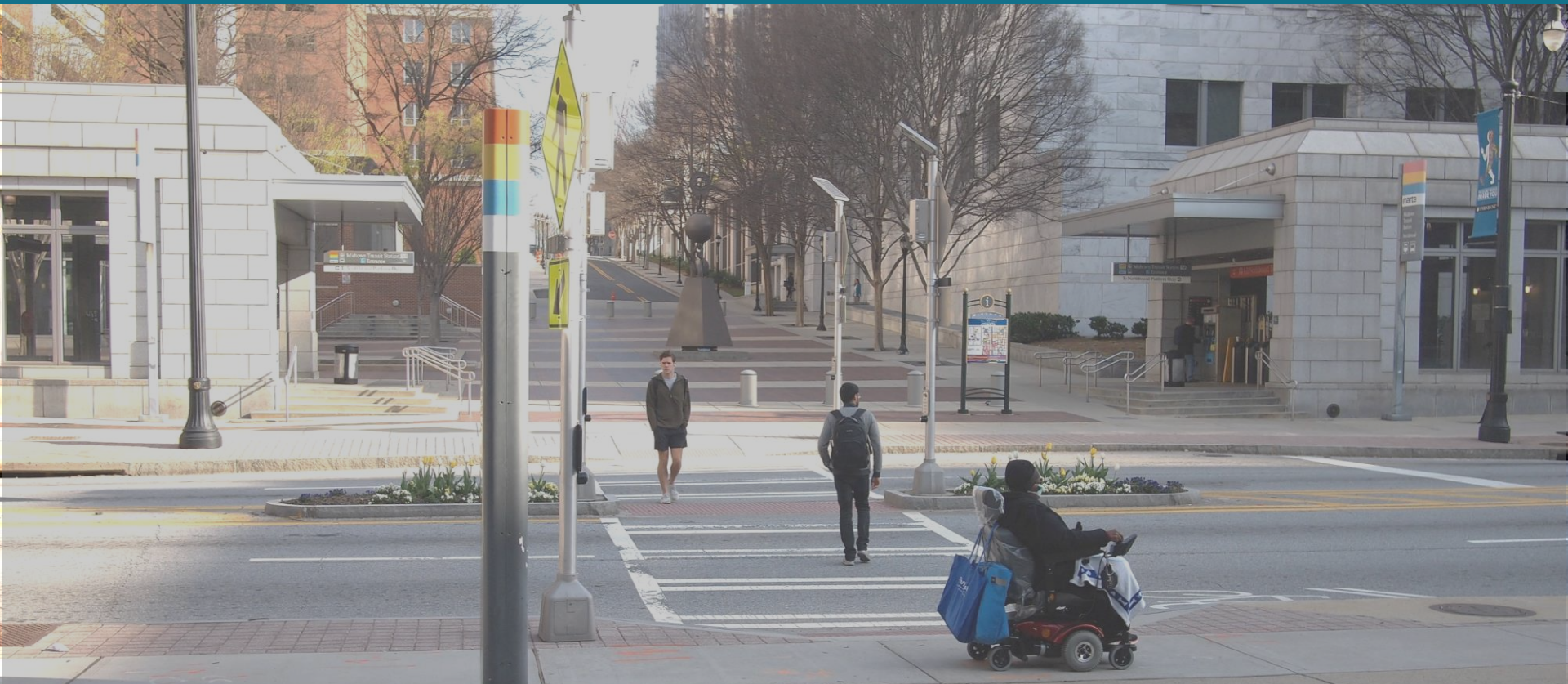


# ARC Regional Safety Strategy

Presentation to TAQC

August 11, 2021

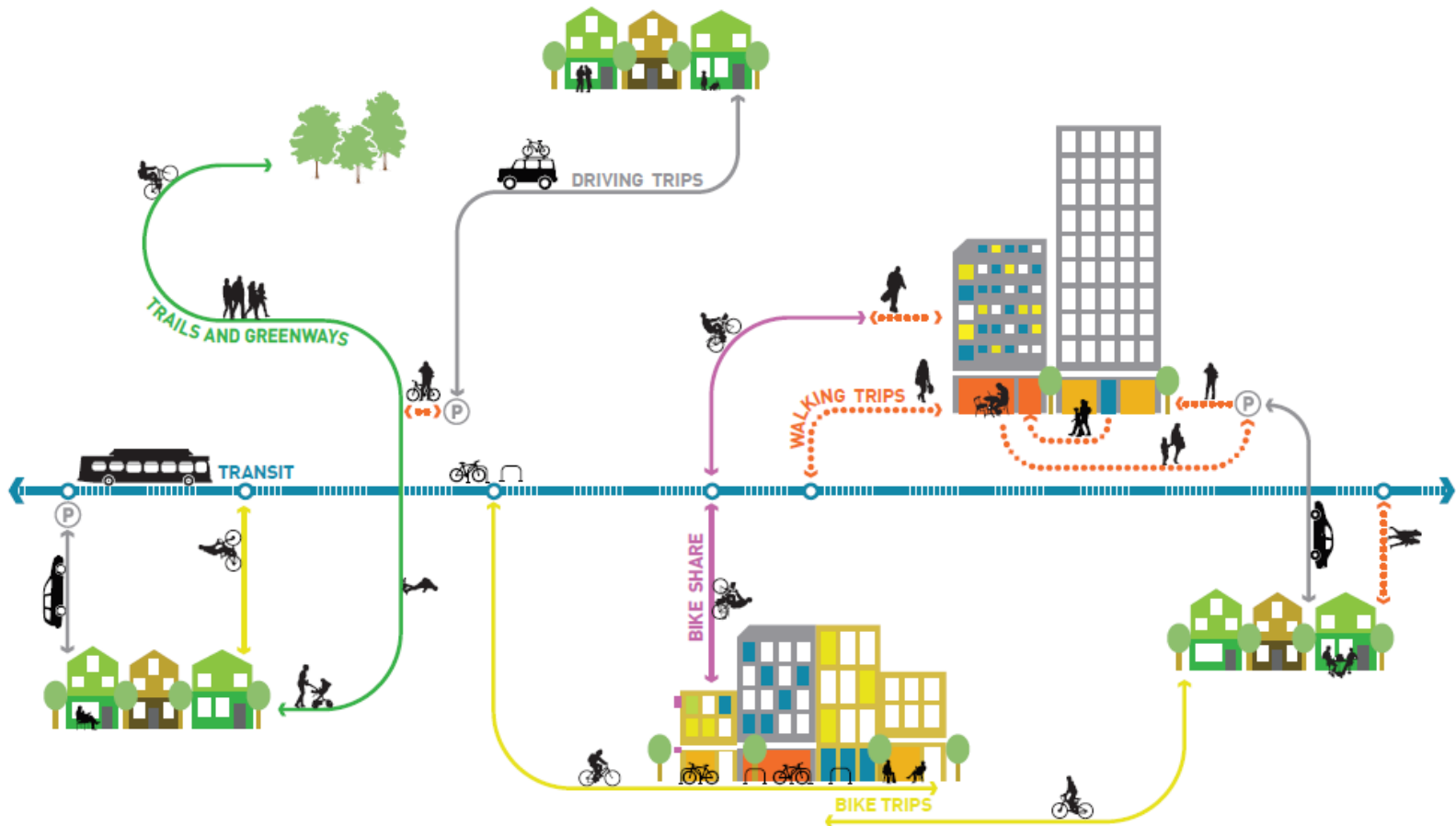


Most Americans today do not live in towns or cities in the traditional sense that we think of those terms.

Instead most of us are citizens of the region – a large and multi-faceted metropolitan area encompassing hundreds of places that we would traditionally think of as distinct and separate communities.

— *Peter Calthorpe*

# HOW DO WE BUILD A REGION WHERE IT IS SAFER & EASIER FOR EVERYONE TO TRAVEL?



# SAFETY IS REQUIRED BY LAW

## DECISIONS GUIDED BY MANDATES & POLICIES

- **USDOT:** "Provision of fast, safe, efficient, and convenient transportation"
- **MPOs:** "Increase the safety of the transportation system for motorized and nonmotorized users"
- **ARC:** "Course of action for the agency to follow in improving safety outcomes on our transportation system for all users"



# SAFETY IS A GOOD OUTCOME

## SUPPORT MOBILITY, EQUITY, & QUALITY OF LIFE

- Safer for everyone, regardless of mode.
- More just and equitable for everyone in every community.
- More mobile and economically competitive.



"Sometimes the speeding cars don't care to stop when it is the pedestrian's time to cross the street."

- MAYRA, ATLANTA

ARC is committed to a **regional safety approach to eliminate fatal and serious injury crashes** that is data-driven, proactive, and aggressive.

# ASPIRATIONAL PERFORMANCE TARGETS

## 5% ANNUAL REDUCTION

Federally Required Performance Measures	ARC Aspirational Targets		
	2020	2021	2022
Number of Fatalities	609	579	550
Rate of Fatalities (per 100 million VMT)	1.002	0.952	0.905
Number of Serious Injuries	2,753	2,616	2,485
Rate of Serious Injuries (per 100 million VMT)	4.502	4.277	4.063
Number of Non-Motorized Fatalities and Serious Injuries	405	384	365

# NUMBERS BEYOND TARGETS

## CONTEXT, OWNERSHIP, & COLLABORATION

### 2019 Crashes on State vs Local Roads

	State Roads	Local Roads
Fatalities	65%	35%
Serious Injuries	57%	43%

\*Only includes crashes within ARC's MPO boundaries

\*\* State Roads = 14% Lane Miles & 52% VMT in ARC boundary



ARC's **Regional Safety Strategy** will address the safety of all road users through a **collaborative, multidisciplinary, and multimodal** approach.

# RSS PLANNING TEAM

## NATIONAL & LOCAL EXPERTISE

**Frank Gross, PHD, PE**

Project Manager



**Kristine Hansen-Dederick, AICP**

Engagement  
(Sycamore Consulting Inc.)

**Regan Hammond, AICP**

Client Manager

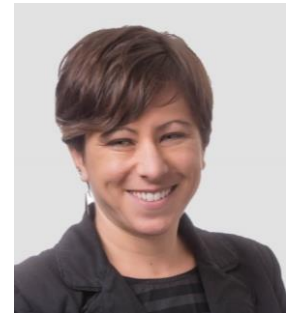


**Kirsten Mote, AICP**

Technology  
(Modern Mobility Partners)

**David Pickworth, PE**

Deputy PM



**Erin Thoresen, AICP**

Implementation  
(Gresham Smith)

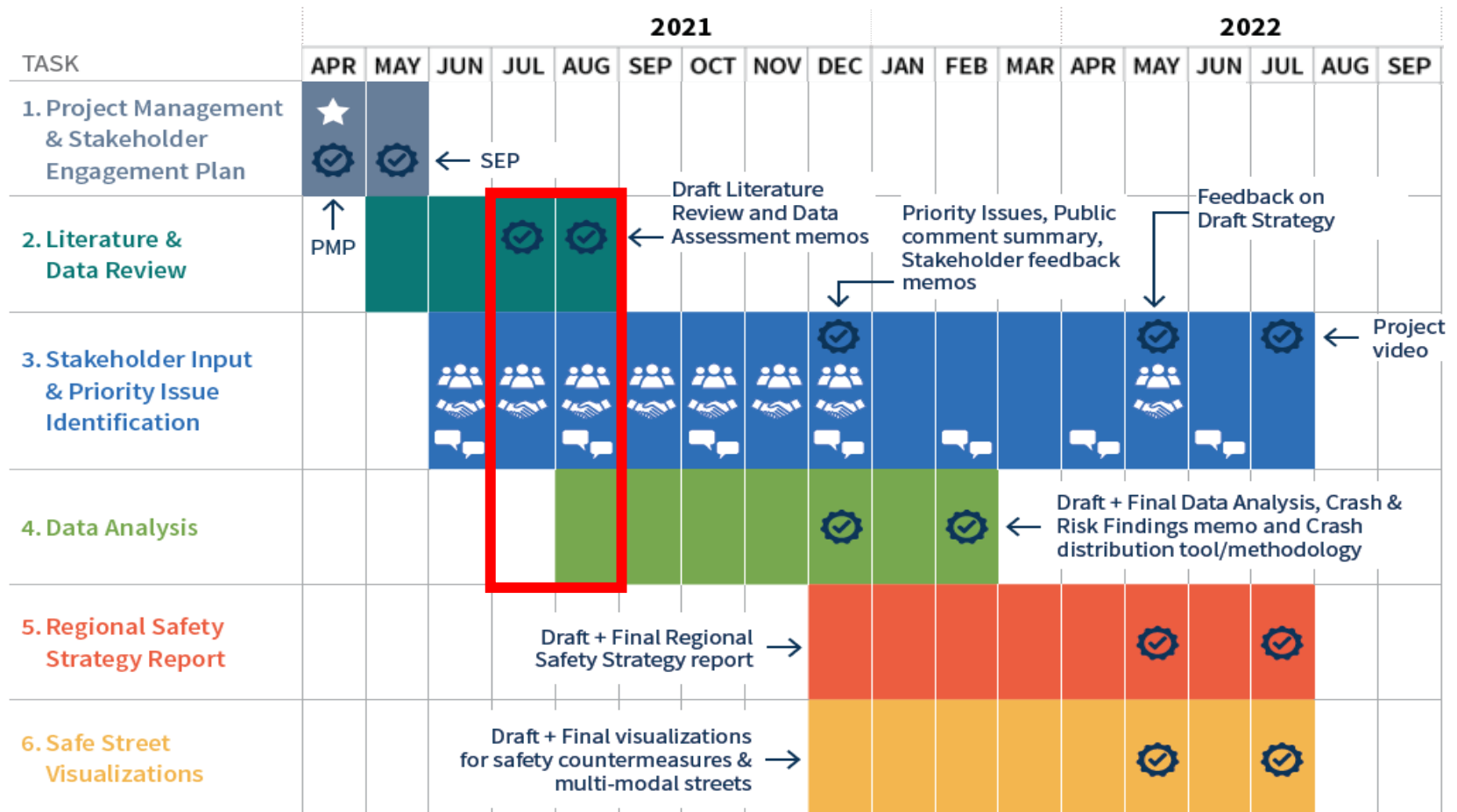


# QUESTIONS TO GUIDE PROJECT:

- What are trends for safety in the Atlanta region?
- Who is most at risk when traveling in the region?
- What aspects of design – road, vehicle, or communities – or human behavior effect safety?
- What are the most dangerous types of roads in the region and where are they located?
- How do residents and decision makers prioritize safe transportation in the region?
- What are effective tools for minimizing risk and improving roadway safety?

# PROJECT SCHEDULE

## 2021-2022



Kickoff Meeting



TAC Meetings



Stakeholder  
Interviews/Focus  
Groups



Public Engagement

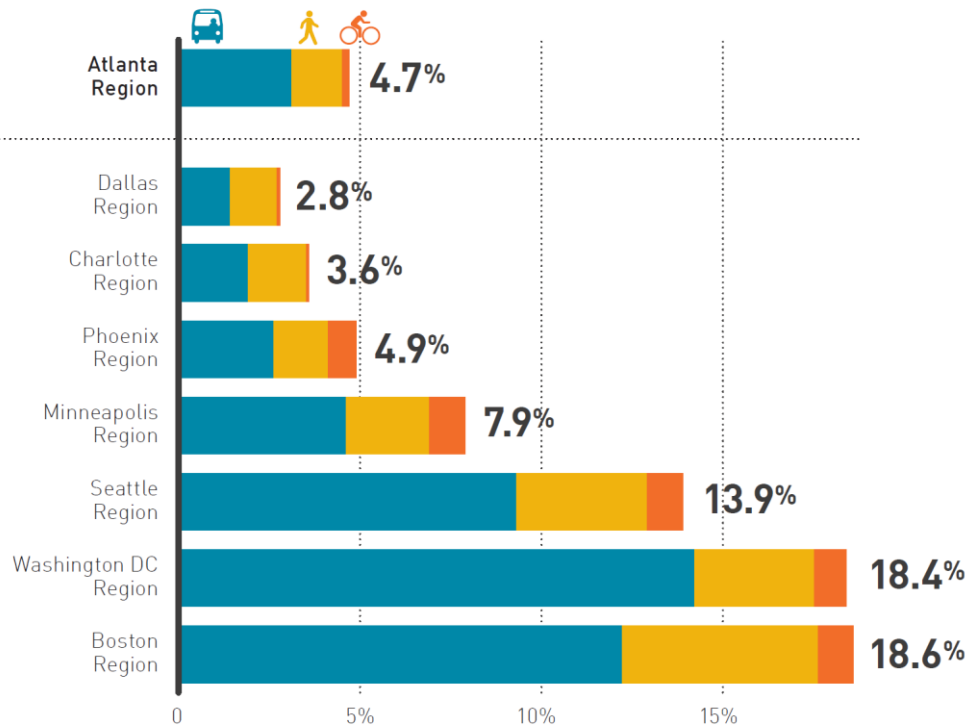


Deliverable

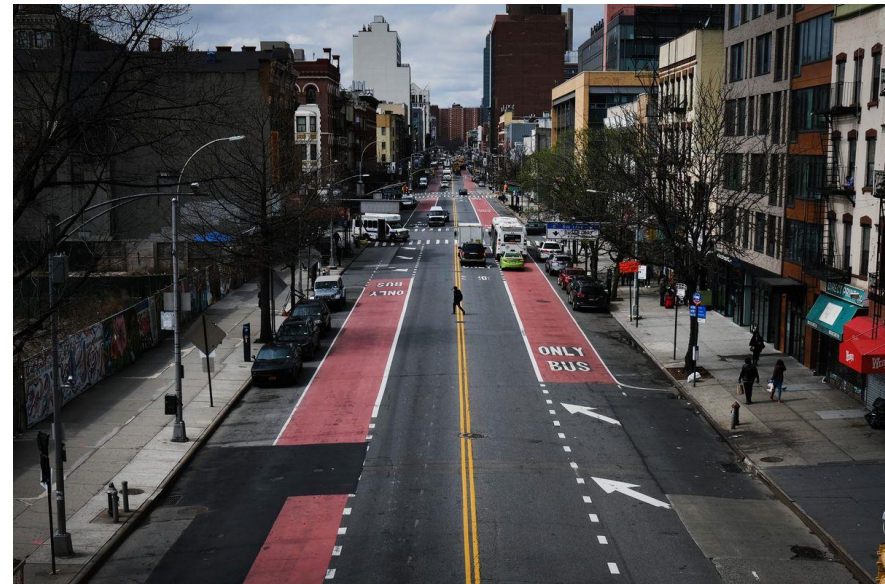
Planning approaches will include **data analysis** to support data-informed decisions; visualizations to help **explain** and **engage** complex infrastructure changes; **engagement** to determine both **priorities** and **processes**.

# LEARN FROM RESEARCH & PEERS

## WHAT IS SUCCESSFUL – NOW & LONG TERM?



Source: US Census American Community Survey 1-year estimates, Table B08301. Charlotte data is from 2009, Boston data is from 2012, others are from 2013.





# UNDERSTAND SAFETY RISK FACTORS

## WHAT ROAD *TYPES* ARE MORE DANGEROUS?



**Speed:** Well over half of pedestrian and bike crashes occur on streets with speed limits at or above 35mph



**Number of Lanes:** Streets with four or more lanes have a significantly higher number of crashes per mile



**Lighting:** Crashes after dark disproportionately result in severe outcomes, especially for pedestrians where there is no street lighting



**Crosswalks:** Missing or inadequate crosswalks and sidewalks leave pedestrians vulnerable to being hit.



# IMPROVE REGIONAL POLICIES

## HOW CAN WE LEVERAGE FUNDING?

### THE ARC TIP PROJECT EVALUATION FRAMEWORK

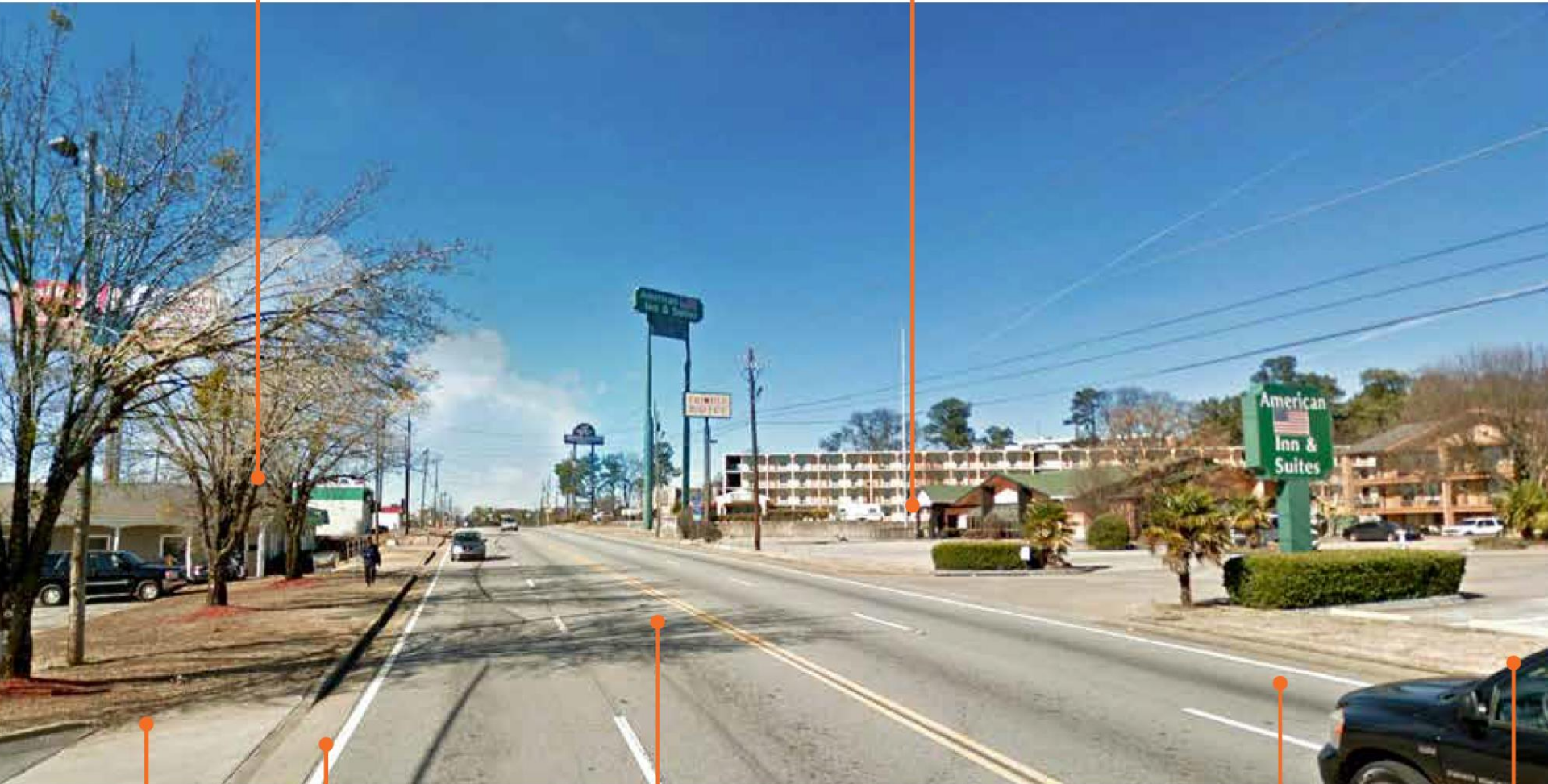
"The Project Evaluation Cookbook"

Atlanta Regional  
Commission  
Revised  
August 2019

Mobility & Access		
Improves Congestion	a%	X%
Improves Access to Destinations	b%	
Regional Significance	c%	
Improves Active Transportation	d%	
Equity		
Addresses Equity	100%	Y%
Safety		
Improves Safety	100%	Z%
Resiliency		
Reduction of Greenhouse Gasses	e%	A%
Reduction of Air Pollutants	f%	
Addresses Flood Risk	g%	

$$X\% + Y\% + Z\% + A\% = 100\%$$

NO CONNECTIONS  
BETWEEN BUILDINGS, LOTS



NO PEDESTRIAN REFUGE/CROSSING ISLANDS

NO BICYCLE FACILITIES

LACK OF PEDESTRIAN AMENITIES INCLUDING SIDEWALKS,  
CROSSWALKS, AND PEDESTRIAN SCALED LIGHTING.





**SIDEWALKS** provide safe places for people traveling by foot and by wheelchair. GDOT recommends a minimum of 5-foot-wide sidewalks, while NACTO recommends a minimum of 6 feet. AASHTO also recommends a minimum 5-6ft buffer between the sidewalk and travel lane. However, the land use context, transit, and pedestrian activity should always be considered.



**CROSSWALKS** provide an indication to pedestrians on where they should cross the street. They also provide motorists with an indication of where pedestrians are likely to be.



**PEDESTRIAN HYBRID BEACON (PHB)** is a pedestrian-activated signal that alerts drivers to pedestrians crossing the road.

## NEXT STEPS:

- **Literature Review** – highlight national research & peer experience, policies, strategies, and context.
- **Data Analysis** – deep dive into regional trends, patterns, trajectories, and factors.
- **Public Engagement** – understand regional priorities of citizens, staffs, & elected officials; understand how safety is currently being practiced (and can be improved).

# TCC / LOCAL STAFF SURVEY

## LOCAL PRIORITIES & CURRENT PRACTICES



**[https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ARCRSS)**  
**ARCRSS**